

METHOD 7080A

BARIUM (ATOMIC ABSORPTION, DIRECT ASPIRATION)

1.0 SCOPE AND APPLICATION

1.1 See Section 1.0 of Method 7000.

2.0 SUMMARY OF METHOD

2.1 See Section 2.0 of Method 7000.

3.0 INTERFERENCES

3.1 See Section 3.0 of Method 7000 if interferences are suspected.

3.2 High hollow cathode current settings and a narrow spectral band pass must be used, because both barium and calcium emit strongly at barium's analytical wavelength.

3.3 Barium undergoes significant ionization in the nitrous oxide/acetylene flame, resulting in a significant decrease in sensitivity. All samples and standards must contain an ionization suppressant. The type of suppressant and concentration used must be documented.

4.0 APPARATUS AND MATERIALS

4.1 For basic apparatus, see Section 4.0 of Method 7000.

4.2 Instrument parameters (general):

4.2.1 Barium hollow cathode lamp.

4.2.2 Wavelength: 553.6 nm.

4.2.3 Fuel: Acetylene.

4.2.4 Oxidant: Nitrous oxide.

4.2.5 Type of flame: Fuel rich.

4.2.6 Background correction: Not required.

5.0 REAGENTS

5.1 See Section 5.0 of Method 7000.

5.2 Preparation of standards:

5.2.1 Stock solution: Dissolve 1.7787 g barium chloride ($\text{BaCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$) analytical reagent grade in reagent water and dilute to 1 liter (1000 mg/L). Alternatively, procure a certified standard from a supplier and verify by comparison with a second standard.

5.2.2 Prepare dilutions of the stock solution to be used as calibration standards at the time of analysis. The calibration standards

should be prepared using the same type of acid and at the same concentration as will result in the sample to be analyzed after processing. All calibration standards and samples should contain the ionization suppressant.

6.0 SAMPLE COLLECTION, PRESERVATION, AND HANDLING

6.1 See Chapter Three, Section 3.1.3, Sample Handling and Preservation.

7.0 PROCEDURE

7.1 Sample preparation: The procedures for preparation of the sample are given in Chapter Three, Section 3.2.

7.2 See Method 7000, Section 7.2, Direct Aspiration.

8.0 QUALITY CONTROL

8.1 See Section 8.0 of Method 7000.

9.0 METHOD PERFORMANCE

9.1 The performance characteristics for an aqueous sample free of interferences are:

Optimum concentration range: 1-20 mg/L with a wavelength of 553.6 nm.

Sensitivity: 0.4 mg/L.

Detection limit: 0.1 mg/L.

9.2 In a single laboratory, analysis of a mixed industrial-domestic waste effluent, digested with Method 3010, at concentrations of 0.4 and 2 mg Ba/L gave standard deviations of ± 0.043 and ± 0.13 , respectively. Recoveries at these levels were 94% and 113%, respectively.

10.0 REFERENCES

1. Methods for Chemical Analysis of Water and Wastes, EPA-600/4-82-055, December 1982, Method 208.1.

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